REMARKS

In the last office action the examiner objected to claims 18 and 26 due to the word "slipperier", asking what was it slipperier than.

The claims have been amended to change the word "slipperier" to "slippery" such that the claims are not using a comparative term.

It is believe that the claims are now allowable over the objection.

The examiner rejected claims 12 and 20 as being anticipated by Herms et al., which uses a Titanium Molybdenum wire of the same alloy in an implantable filter in body passageways.

The applicant has not invented the Beta III Titanium alloy which is the claimed alloy of approximately 78% titanium, 11.5% molybdenum, 6% zirconium and 4.5% tin by weight. The applicant as well as many others use this alloy in various products. The applicant is claiming the use of the Beta III Titanium as a guidewire in body passageways because it has properties of stiffness, springiness and rotatability between the stainless steel and Nitinol guidewires in common use.

Since the applicant has amended the claims to show not only in the preamble but in the body of the claims that the Beta III Titanium is used for a guidewire in body passageways the examiner's references to Beta III Titanium for other uses in body passageways are not anticipated by the applicant's claims. The claims are therefore believed to be allowable.

Similarly the examiners 102 rejection regarding the Mayer publication is also not applicable since Mayer is to a stent and not a guidewire.

Since the claims are drawn to a guidewire and no other guidewires use Beta III Titanium the applicant's claims are not anticipated by the prior art.

The examiner also rejected claims 12-27 as being obvious over Cornish in view of Meyer

The examiner stated that Cornish et al disclosed the use of a guidewire comprising titanium alloy wire. However, Cornish doe not use a Beta III Titanium wire. Cornish uses a nickel titanium alloy. Mayer uses a Beta III titanium alloy for the stent used for inserting into the passageways of the body.

The claims have been amended to claim a guidewire made of approximately 78% titanium, 11.5% molybdenum, 6% zirconium and 4.5% tin by weight for use in body passageways.

Since the claims have been amended to claim a guidewire the Mayer reference is no longer relevant since it is a stent.

Further is not obvious that a guidewire made of approximately 78% titanium, 11.5% molybdenum, 6% zirconium and 4.5% tin by weight would have the properties of stiffness, springiness and rotatability necessary to be usable as a guidewire from a combination of a guidewire made of nickel titanium alloy and a stent made of Bata III Titanium.

Therefore the claims are believed to be allowable over the references cited.